

MONTEREY COUNTY LABOR NEWS

VOL. IX—No. 38

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WHOLE No. 450

A Call to Arms!

The life of your trade union is at stake!
All of the economic security that has been built up by years of continuous effort is threatened with complete breakdown!
The biggest legislative swindle in history is about to be imposed upon the American working man and woman!

It is within your power, by the very simple means of paper and pencil and the U. S. mail, to put a stop to this rule of America by a few wealthy, greedy, conniving big-business royalists.

Sit down today and write to President Truman asking him to veto this legislation, then write to Senator Wm. F. Knowland and your congressman, stating plainly in your own words your belief in free unions of working people.

You will help restore democracy to America, let it be known who does the work of America, and take part in a historic turning point that will decide whether American democracy will prove itself to the world or take a course for inevitable self-destruction!

Do this today! Tell your friends!
Let's show America and the world what spirit of brotherhood there is in the world's greatest fraternity of wage-earners!

The American labor movement is responding to the call to arms. Every unit of organized labor is mobilizing. One of the best statements of our case comes from Charles MacGowan, fighting president of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, in a letter that will reach every member of the union. It follows:

"This letter is written to the entire membership of this brotherhood... so that all of them may become fully acquainted with the dastardly attempt being made to destroy the free labor movement of America.

"There is pending before the Congress of the United States legislation which has already passed the House and the Senate and is now in conference between both houses which, if enacted, will thoroughly destroy the effectiveness of our trade union movement and reduce the movement to the status of small, local, company unions without power, influence, money, or the ability to render any service to the working people of this nation.

"Regardless of what certain members of Congress or newspaper writers may tell you, I assert most emphatically that the purpose of this legislation is to so weaken the effectiveness of your union that it will have no justification for further existence.

"It will be several weeks before this legislation reaches the President, and I urge, yes, I implore every member of this brotherhood,

your family, your friends, businessmen, employers, and every public-spirited citizen that you contact, to immediately write your congressman, your senator, and President Truman in your own language, demanding and insisting that they vote against this vicious legislation.

"Space will not permit me to give you a digest of this legislation, but I want to briefly point out a few things:

"1. Any form of union shop or union security is outlawed.

"2. No agreement can be made with more than one employer at the same time.

"3. The government will supervise all strike votes, negotiations, election of officers, and the handling of your local funds.

"4. All contributions or activities by local unions in behalf of friendly candidates or in opposition to enemy candidates are forbidden.

"There is a host of other strongly objectionable features in this legislation. The foregoing is sufficient to strike terror in the heart of every trade unionist.

"I call upon you to act and act now. Appoint committees to canvass your membership and the membership of other unions, businessmen, and friendly employers, and start a deluge of protest going into Washington that will awaken the congressmen and senators to the fact that freedom is not yet dead in America and that there are plenty of people still ready to fight for it.

CHAS. J. MACGOWAN."

Wallace, in Speech in San Francisco, Asks Return to Roosevelt Foreign Policy

San Francisco, Calif.

"Under Roosevelt's leadership Americans were ready to make sacrifices for the common cause. Under his leadership they might have been willing to make equally determined efforts for world unity in peace. But that leadership was lost to the government after his death."

Thus Henry A. Wallace, former vice president and cabinet member, and editor of the New Republic, described the post-war drift of America's foreign policy in a speech here last Tuesday night at Veterans Memorial Building. Wallace said:

ADHERENCE TO CHARTER

"I believe that a policy of true service, instead of lip service, to the principles of the Charter could help provide a basis for a working relationship with Russia... Once the idea of an eventual war fixed itself in the minds of governments, no real advance was possible. Necessary actions became dangerous concessions in the strategy of war preparation.

OPPOSES 'ANTI POLICY'

"I am opposed to the President's program of unconditional loans to anti-Soviet governments because I believe it bears no real relation to the needs of the world... The world is crying out, not for American guns and tanks to spread more hunger, but for American plows and machines to fulfill the promise of peace... None of these ends is served by maintaining swollen armies on Russian borders by the use of American funds... If we really set out to police Russia's borders, then even Canada and India become border states... We in the United States don't know the cost of the projected program, and if we did know, we wouldn't pay it... It may not cost much at first to divide the world into two armed camps. The cost of keeping it divided is untold. Great armaments, a weak United Nations, intolerance, the use of economic, political and mili-

tary power to organize opposition to Russia are all part of a policy of a divided world.

CALLED FUTILE PROGRAM

"This two-world program is costly, and it is futile. It is undertaken in the name of stopping communism. Instead it will lead to communist revolutions. Communism arises where poverty-stricken millions cannot end their poverty, and seek better living standards through economic democracy. Communism is an idea for ending poverty and exploitation. It cannot be destroyed by tanks and guns... I believe that by democratic planning we can end poverty and exploitation; communism can never satisfy all the needs of mankind. Democracy can, if we give it our full devotion. But when we squander our moral and material resources on vicious and undemocratic governments we are acting as the best salesman communism ever had.

"We who feel this must make our voices heard. Today America and all nations are preparing for a final war. Today we are back at the old game of power politics... Every open-minded American today knows that power politics has always led to war and always will."

'BACK TO SAN FRANCISCO'

"Fulton, Missouri, was one turning point on the road, where Winston Churchill, speaking with the President's approval, directed the democracies down the road to power politics and war. The time has come to retrace our steps—back beyond Fulton, back to San Francisco and the hopes that were held out here for One World."

FARMER BROS. COFFEE NOW FULLY UNION

Farmer Bros. Coffee, listed as non-union and unfair to organized labor for an entire year, has signed an agreement with the Teamsters Union and now is union and again worthy of patronage of all union members.

The agreement was negotiated by the Western Conference of Teamsters at last week's meeting in Santa Barbara and contracts are being signed covering all unions involved in the dispute, according to George W. Jenott, secretary of Teamsters Union 296 of this area.

Ain't It Awful?

The Watsonville Council of the California Association of Employers, with headquarters in the Porter Building, Watsonville, got out the following bulletin to its membership in Watsonville, Santa Cruz, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Salinas, Hollister, Los Banos, Gilroy, Capitola and San Juan. It should give you some idea of how this particular employers' association "just loves us":

RE: LEGISLATION

A new labor bill will be before the President within a few days.

You are advised that every union is instructing its members to write or telegraph the President to veto the bill.

"For ten years business people have been crushed under the heel of Union Dictators and now may be the time of salvation.

You should write or wire the President, and get your fellow businessmen to write or wire him to sign the bill which will shortly come out of the joint Senate-House Conference.

You should also wire Governor Warren to sign the Hot Cargo Bill. Do this today.

Yours very truly,
ROBERT W. NORTON,
Field Representative.

So, for ten years businessmen have been crushed under the heel of labor dictators, eh?

How does it happen, then, that at the present time profits for business in general are at an all-time high, as reported by the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Wall Street Journal, and other highly respectable authorities?

Some "crush"!

Notes From Your Social Security Office

Last week I discussed some proposed changes in the old-age and survivors insurance program, beginning with extension of coverage.

In view of high living costs, Congress has also been urged to make a general increase in the amount of benefits. It is also suggested that workers be given credit for a maximum of \$3600 wages a year, instead of the present \$3000 maximum.

Another proposed improvement would make women eligible for benefits at age 60, instead of 65. This would include working women, wives, widows, and mothers. Wives are usually younger than their husbands, and many men feel obliged to continue working, if they can, until their wives are 65 and eligible for benefits. Many firms retire women at 60, and the gap between retirement and age 65 creates many hardships. A woman who is widowed or loses her job after 60 often finds it extremely difficult to get work.

Many Attend Course in Meat Cutting

Approximately 30 journeymen butchers of Local 506 attended the first of two classes in meat cutting at Salinas Carpenters Hall last Thursday. The second class was set for Thursday of this week.

E. L. ("Pete") Courtright, business agent for Local 506 in that area, said that highlight of the course is the demonstrations in cutting and handling beef by Clair Wilder, Salinas butcher.

Fred Feil, San Jose business agent for the union, is instructor in the course, giving new ideas and advancements in the trade.

Box Makers May Meet in Watsonville

Plans for holding local unit meetings of Box Makers Union 3034 at Watsonville were under consideration last week, according to Business Representative J. W. Deer of Local 3034.

The distance for traveling from Watsonville to Salinas has made it necessary to plan meetings in the former area, Deer said.

Vets Warned On Allowance For Schooling

Not all student veterans will be eligible for readjustment allowances when their school terms end, MacKenzie Dodson, unemployment insurance manager in the Salinas office of the California Department of Employment, advised today. He pointed out that under the law, no veteran is eligible for a readjustment allowance for any period for which he is being paid a G.I. subsistence allowance.

Dodson warned that if for any reason a veteran receives readjustment allowances for the same period for which he is paid G. I. G. I. subsistence allowances, the veteran will face the prospect of refunding the money illegally received. In addition, the law prescribed that any further rights to readjustment allowances will be cancelled if the veteran accepts such an allowance to which he knows he is not entitled. Criminal penalties including fines and imprisonment, apply where veterans make misrepresentations or otherwise engage in fraud in claiming allowances.

"Even if a student veteran is not receiving subsistence allowances he may not meet all the eligibility requirements for readjustment allowances," Dodson said. "Readjustment allowances are intended only for veterans who are able, ready and willing to enter civilian occupations, but are encountering delays or difficulties in doing so. They are not intended as vacation pay. Among the specifications of eligibility for unemployment allowances, is the requirement that the veteran be available for suitable work."

"The veteran who seeks employment for temporary periods between terms sharply limits his availability and choice of jobs. Therefore, the matter of suitability of work, as applied to the veteran seeking regular employment in an occupational career, may be quite different from the suitability of work for a veteran seeking only temporary employment. The latter rightfully may be expected to accept any reasonable work within his ability to perform," Dodson declared.

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Summer Sardine Pack is Started

Canning of summer sardines was begun last week with fairly good catches of fish and with seven plants operating on the summer pack, the Monterey Fish Cannery Workers Union reported.

Plants which called the union for crews included Atlantic Coast Fisheries, Edgewater, San Carlos, Hodven, California Packing Co., Enterprise and Sun Harbor.

Routine business was transacted by the FCWU at last week's membership meeting. Anthony Alves, employee of the San Carlos plant, was praised for the good race he made in the city council election campaign. Alves, while not elected, was among the leaders.

MEAT FIRM ERECTING NEW PLANT

Lee Wong, who heads a union-operated sausage manufacturing company, is erecting a new sausage kitchen on West Market street in Salinas, to be known as United Meat Co., reports E. L. Courtright, business representative of Butchers Union 506 of this area.

The shop will contain all latest type of equipment, Courtright said, and will be union-operated throughout. F. V. Hampshire is contractor.

McGinley in S.F. On Laborers Pact

J. B. McGinley, business representative for Salinas Laborers Union 272, was called to San Francisco last Friday in regard to details of the new AGC contract covering all union laborers of Northern California. The new wage set up by the agreement is \$1.30 per hour.

NOTED CLOWNS DUE IN SALINAS FOR BIG RODEO

Salinas will have the finest Rodeo clowns ever seen when George Mills, the champion clown of the East, will compete against Slim Pickens, who is recognized as the champion of the West since the retirement of Homer Hocom.

Both of these clowns have been secured for the California Rodeo at Salinas from June 19th through the 22nd, which not only assures good entertainment, but protection of the cowboys as well.

Few people realize that clowning at Rodeos is not primarily for entertainment, but is mainly for the protection of the cowboys thrown from raging Brama bulls.

By getting the attention of the bull from the rider to the clown, many cowboys lives are saved. Both Pickens and Mills are noted for their ability to run away from the bull.

AFL RULING GRATIFIES HOLLYWOOD CARPENTERS

Hollywood, Calif. The Conference of Studio Unions is elated over a new ruling from the AFL executive council upholding the carpenters union in its long-standing dispute with the Intl. Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, which touched off the 7-month Hollywood lockout.

CSU Pres. Herbert K. Sorrell said: "The ruling is a full vindication of the position taken by the CSU all along." The council ruled that all set construction should be done by carpenters and all set erection should be done by IATSE. It also threatened to withdraw the charter of any union refusing to abide by its decision.

The carpenters, affiliated with the CSU, walked off their jobs last Sept. 26 after producers turned some 500 set construction jobs over to a set erectors local of IATSE. Other CSU affiliates joined the walkout, with subsequent refusal by producers to negotiate contracts, changing the situation into a general lockout.

Culinary Crafts Open Negotiations For New Contracts

Culinary Alliance 467 and Bartenders Union 545 of Salinas were to open negotiations this week for new agreements for the respective crafts.

Bartha A. Boles, secretary of Local 467, said the unions expect friendly negotiations to be conducted by the Joint Executive Board of the crafts.

C. T. McDonough, international representative, will assist the unions. Peter C. Balestra will represent Local 545.

Cleaners Picket Salinas Firm

Dry Cleaners Union 258-B last week were picketing the Market Dry Cleaners in Salinas in an effort to gain union recognition, Business Representative John W. Deer reported.

All dry cleaning shops in the Salinas area under union contract were operating with union crews, although some non-union shops were closed by employers in a sympathy move to aid the Market firm and help fight the union.

Monterey Bartenders Hold Picnic

With all bars closed last Friday because of school board elections, bartenders of Local 483 of Monterey traveled to Big Sur for a gala picnic.

Union offices were closed as officers and members alike joined in the festivities.

Courtright Ill

E. L. ("Pete") Courtright, secretary of the Salinas labor council and also representative in Monterey County for Butchers 506, was stricken ill last Friday. Friends said the exact nature of the illness was not determined, but that an operation might be necessary.

Lumps in the Cocoa

"A phenologist told me by the bumps on my head that I would one day be married," said one young lady to another.

"That's nothing," said the other. "He told me by the bumps on my head that I AM married."

Big Building Boom For 1947 Proves a Dud

Washington, D. C.

The much ballyhooed 1947 building boom appears to have been deflated before it even reached the "boomlet" phase. Inflationary building costs—up 100 per cent since 1939—have priced buyers out of the market for residential housing and business construction. Since price control was destroyed last November building costs have risen almost 30 per cent to an all-time peak.

As a result of skyhigh prices the building trend is downward and the government has scaled down its former estimate that new construction in 1947 would amount to \$15 billion. Its revised figure is now \$12 billion, a reduction of 20 per cent, and the actual amount may be closer to \$10 billion. The previous estimate of \$6 billion for residential construction has been cut to \$4.8 billion and the figure at the year-end may be less than \$4.5 billion.

VOLUME SHOWN DOWN

These dollar totals reflect price increases; the physical volume of construction this year will be less than in 1946. Last year one million new housing units were started. In 1947, following the death of price control and the veterans' emergency housing program, new starts are estimated at between 600 and 700 thousand, down 30 to 40 per cent. New homes started in March 1947 totaled only 59,000 compared with 86,000 in March of last year.

Veterans and their families and the bulk of the American people just cannot afford to buy new homes or rent new apartments at current inflationary prices. Before the war a six-room house cost on the average about \$5,900. It now costs in the neighborhood of \$13,000. Lumber prices have almost tripled; paints have more than doubled. According to the Natl. City Bank of New York, 24 lumber companies increased their profits after taxes by 112 per cent in 1946 compared to 1945.

RENT CONTROL VITAL

With the tightening of the housing shortage, the only way to prevent runaway rent inflation and millions of evictions is to continue rent control until at least mid-June 1948. Absence of controls caused rents to skyrocket 48 per cent from the Armistice in 1918 to the end of 1920. They kept rising during the 1920-1921 depression until by 1925 they were 65 per cent above the prewar level.

The shortage today is far more acute than it was then. Without rent control, inflationary increases will take place just when millions of families find they cannot make ends meet because of the inflationary prices of the essentials of living. With low-income families already cutting their purchases of food and clothing, rent increases would deprive children of milk and shoes.

Tennessee Open Shop Law Will Soon Get Test

Chattanooga, Tenn.

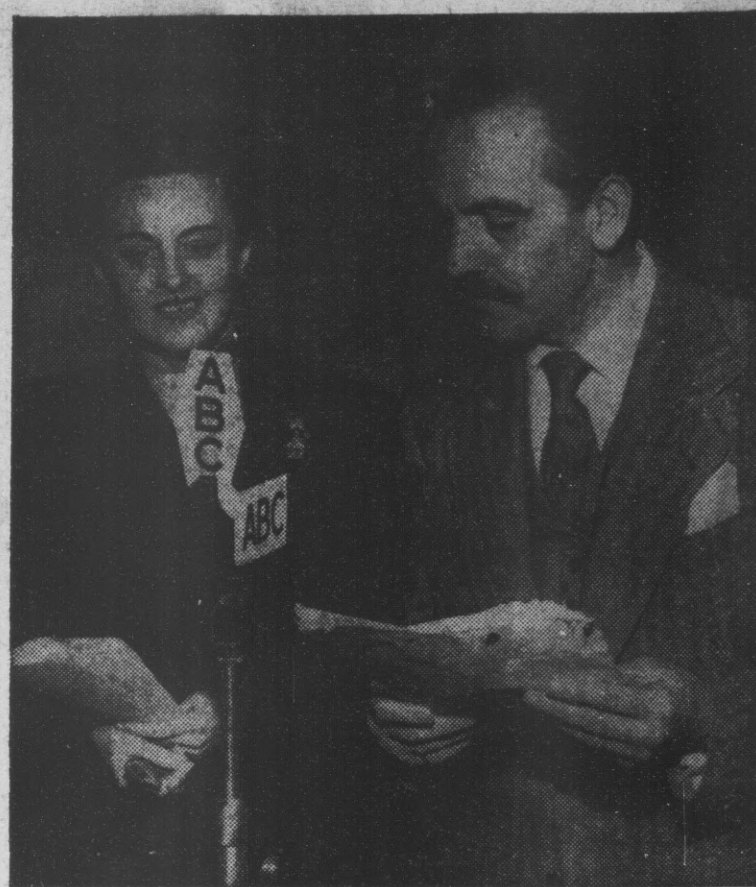
Editor T. R. Cuthbert of the Labor World may get his chance after all to test the constitutionality of the new Tennessee law banning the closed shop.

Cuthbert, Claude Shipley and Paul Harte, officers of Local 165, Printing Pressmen & Assistants Union (AFL), were re-arrested here on warrants charging violation of the open shop law. Waiving hearing in general sessions court, they were ordered held over for the grand jury under bonds of \$500 each.

The three men were first arrested April 2 on the same charges in what was publicly proclaimed by Cuthbert and other AFL leaders here as an effort to test the new law's constitutionality. The grand jury, however, refused to indict them.

Warrants for the second arrest were signed by one Will Cross, who had applied for a job as pressman on the Labor World but had been rejected because he was not a member of the Pressmen's Union. The Labor World recently signed a closed shop contract with Local 165 in open violation of the recent law.

AFL ON THE AIR



A pro-labor radio campaign organized by the entertainment unions in cooperation with the AFL begins as Frederic March and his wife Florence Eldridge appear in the first radio serial with a union twist. Top talent from radio, Hollywood and Broadway are all in this effort to inform the public about the dangerous Taft-Hartley anti-labor bills. (Federated Pictures)

States Make Changes in Insurance

(Release from State Fed. of Labor)

San Francisco, Calif.

Important changes in Unemployment Compensation Laws were made in 26 states during the past year, according to an official report of the Social Security Board.

In Maryland, maximum weekly benefits were increased from \$20 to \$25, while New Hampshire raised its maximum from \$20 to \$22. Six other states increased payments to \$20, and 3 upped their maximums to \$18.

UP IN THREE STATES

In 3 states, minimum benefits were increased. Idaho raised its minimum from \$5 to \$10 a week, Montana from \$5 to \$7, and Arkansas from \$3 to \$5. Maryland, however, lowered its minimum from \$7 to \$6.

Benefit duration payments were increased in 5 states. Utah lengthened its period from 23 to 25 weeks, depending on earnings, while Idaho and New Mexico stretched their period to 20 weeks. Arizona shortened the duration from 14 to 12 weeks, following a so-called unemployment survey in the state.

In a number of states experience rating systems were changed, many of which favored the employer.

New York employers with a steady employment record will share in an estimated \$140,000,000 unemployment insurance melon.

LIBERALIZE WORK TEST

Two states, Idaho and Tennessee, liberalized their work test to permit payment of benefits for unemployment caused by temporary disability. The claimant, however, must be able to prove that he was able to work when the disability occurred. Maryland, Montana and Nevada have been paying for temporary disability under existing laws.

In Idaho the waiting period has been reduced from 2 weeks to one. Seamen in private shipping were added to the list of eligibles for unemployment compensation in 11 states. Coverage was extended by Tennessee to employees of non-profit and charitable organizations, and New York extended coverage to specified employees of the state government. Both Arizona and Tennessee are allowing state officials to determine the eligibility of state employees.

Some AFL Advertising

A Free America cannot exist without Free Labor!

A 1947 APPEAL TO REASON

"I will not support legislation which will destroy the right of free labor to organize and bargain collectively with their employers. I will support legislation which will protect the right of free labor to organize and bargain collectively with their employers. I will support legislation which will protect the right of free labor to organize and bargain collectively with their employers."

American Federation of Labor
WASHINGTON D. C.

As part of the AFL's intensive campaign to defeat the vicious Taft-Hartley anti-labor bills, full page ads similar to the above have appeared in newspapers throughout the country. Aimed at getting the facts into the normally prejudiced commercial press, the ads tell the public what these anti-labor bills mean. (Federated Pictures)

MONTEREY COUNTY LABOR NEWS

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PRESS COMMITTEE AT SALINAS

A. A. Harris, Teamsters

J. L. Parsons, Barbers

R. Fenchel, Laborers

PRESS COMMITTEE AT MONTEREY

Wayne Edwards, Representing Central Labor Council

Dale Ward, Representing Building Council

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Address all Communications to the LABOR NEWS,
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The editorial policy of this paper is not reflected in any way by the advertise-
ments or signed communications printed herein.



5 MINUS 1 EQUALS 4

The chief reason that merchants have been talking so agitatedly about lowering prices is that the bulk of the American people lately have been buying only what they have to have to "get by." The AFL United Automobile Workers recently conducted a poll of its membership. It found that nine-tenths were putting off buying automobiles because of high prices; that six-sevenths were not buying clothing for the same reason; and that 93 per cent were not buying home furnishings at present prices.

After the war merchants could sell a lot of this stuff because of the backlog of demand and because they could skim the cream off the upper income pan. At that time lots of working people also had a few hundred or a few thousand stuck away in bonds or in a savings account. But as the cost of living soared and take-home pay radically declined and the "top cream" had been skimmed, the merchant began to notice a slack. The workers who had no savings had to spend their money for rent, food, doctor bills and bare clothing essentials. The workers who still had savings tucked away decided to hang onto them for protection against possible unemployment later. The result was inevitable: \$350 chesterfields, \$250 refrigerators, \$1500 automobiles, radios priced at twice and three times their real worth, are simply out of the reach of the average working class family.

Merchants are being graphically reminded that their prosperity depends on the purchasing power of the mass of working people—not on the upper middle class or the millionaires. If that purchasing power continues to go down, merchants will eventually begin closing their doors. You can't get rich by sharing the poverty!

SPEAKING OF MONOPOLY

Starting in January, 1943, this paper warned that unless something were done to prevent it, the disposal of billions of dollars in surplus war goods would amount to "the biggest steal in the history of mankind." Well, nothing was done to prevent it, and the warning was prophetic.

Robert S. Allen, former "Washington Merry-Go-Round" partner of Drew Pearson, tells what has been happening in an illuminating article in *The Nation*. Here are some of the facts:

Seventy per cent of all war plants sold have gone to 250 large manufacturing firms already controlling 66.5 per cent of total U. S. facilities, while only 30 per cent have gone to some of the 262,000 smaller firms which control 33.5 per cent of total U. S. facilities. Mr. Allen adds:

"That of the \$26 billion in plants and equipment erected and purchased by the government during the war, \$10 billion still awaits disposal, and that unless the Truman Administration changes its policies the bulk of this vast industrial empire will inevitably fall into the hands of big business."

The United States government has been talking out of both sides of its mouth. Out of one side it tells us how necessary it is to break up monopoly if we are to preserve the "free enterprise system." Out of the other side it backs up a policy of surplus war property disposal that makes the monopolies even bigger and fatter. And then there are anti-union asses in Congress that shriek about a labor monopoly!

BEWARE OF FALSE ISSUES!

A. F. Whitney, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, in the current issue of *The Railroad Trainman*, has some very pertinent things to say about the phoney use of the "communist" issue to confuse and divide:

"Fascism is your enemy. . . . Fascism comes from the concentration of economic power in fewer hands, from the growth of monopolies with their control of production, prices and markets. And the twin evil of this is the destruction of organized labor."

"In a free enterprise system, competition must exist to check the growth of economic concentration and its bid for power. A strong organized labor movement is even more imperative to prevent powerful and ruthless business groups from taking over the government."

"For these reasons it is obvious that communism is not the real danger to American democracy. We don't want communism, but neither do we want fascism. And the anti-communist sentiment of the American people is being deliberately inflamed by native American fascists to promote their own evil ends."

"There are only 74,000 communists in America (Department of Justice figures). The hysteria about communism amounts to loading a cannon to shoot a sparrow. If the fascists can keep the people busy discussing communism, their opportunity to crush democracy will be strengthened. We need to turn the guns of our national effort and publicity on eliminating American fascism, which is responsible for HIGH PRICES, ANTI-LABOR LEGISLATION, HOUSING SHORTAGES, EXCESSIVE PROFITS, DWINDLING PURCHASING POWER, WITCH HUNTS!"

Mr. Whitney is perfectly correct. Everywhere in the world those who would destroy organized labor are plotting behind a "red menace" camouflage. Remember that World War II, with its colossal carnage, was started by fascists who first destroyed the labor unions in their own countries. That ought to be plain enough.

GIGGLES AND GROANS

HI, PAT HENRY!

As heard at the Iowa Daily Press Association meeting:

This has to do with a man who loved to deliver, in public, an oration on Patrick Henry. He spoke so often that everyone had heard his speech several times and all were heartily tired of it.

They finally decided to cure him for once and for all, and arranged for a meeting with a group of farmers from the area. The night before the meeting they went to the local man and told him that at the last minute their speaker from the Agricultural College had been unable to come and asked if he would take his place. As always, the local speaker was happy to accommodate.

"However," the committee spokesman continued, "there is just one hitch. We have invited the farmers in to hear a talk on a certain subject and they are coming for that, so you must speak on that subject lest they be disappointed."

The speaker said that he would do so and asked the subject. The topic, said the committee, was "Colic in Mules." The local speaker said he would do the best he could.

The next night at the meeting, everyone was out to see what he would say. He got to his feet and announced the subject, "Colic in Mules," and began:

"Colic in mules is caused by gas in the alimentary canal of the mule, which rushes back and forth saying: 'Give me liberty or give me death.'"

NOT FULLY EQUIPPED

One man tells this one:

My brother was recovering in a nearby hospital from an operation for hernia. After dinner, I planned to visit him.

That evening, three-year-old Sandra, was playing with blocks on the frontroom rug; Dianne, six, lolled on the chesterfield mulling through a picture book. Such was the setting when I entered—coated and hat in hand—to bid them good-night before leaving. Sandy required a reason.

"Where are you going, Daddy?"
"To the hospital to see Uncle Eric."

The answer was the inevitable: "Why?"

"He's going to have a baby," was my flippant answer.

Dianne snapped an arched back to rigid attention and said indignantly: "He can't." My wife quickly grasped the opportunity to test the extent of her daughter's knowledge on such matters. She reacted disbelievingly: "And why not?"

"Because," scorned Dianne, "he isn't married!"

THE EXPLANATION

LITTLE WOMAN: "Dear, why can't we live peacefully like the dog and cat lying there by the hearth? They never fight."

HUBBY: "No, they don't, but tie them together, and then see what they do."

HELPFUL HUBBY

The news—at least the kind of news that appeals to this corner of *The Journal*—seems to be chock full this week of husbands helping their wives. Mrs. Florence Kuzdek of 2211 W. Burnham, who is expecting an addition to the family, was under the weather the other day and her husband, Leonard, telephoned their doctor.

"Is she laboring?" the doctor asked.

"Gosh, no, she's in bed," Kuzdek explained. "I'm doing all the work myself."

ACCENTUATING THE POSITIVE

FRANK: "I'm forgetting the women."

HANK: "So am I. I'm for getting a couple as soon as possible."

INTESTINAL REVERENCE

A bored cat and an interested cat were watching a game of tennis.

"You seem very interested," said the bored cat.

"It's not that," said the interested cat, "but my old man's in the racket."

ATOMIC OSCULATION

BOY: One more kiss, darling.

GIRL: We won't have time. Father will be home in an hour.

Clerks Put Up \$26,000 To Aid AFL's Publicity

Lafayette, Indiana.

James A. Suffridge, secretary-treasurer of the Retail Clerks International Association, announces that the A. F. of L. clerks have responded to the American Federation of Labor's voluntary assessment by forwarding a check to the Federation for \$26,250. Funds derived from the A. F. of L. assessment are being used to finance a nationwide educational and publicity campaign.

Secretary Suffridge said he was convinced that "the vast majority of Americans are fair-minded and are eagerly awaiting to hear labor's views and its side of the story. As a result, our lawmakers will, in the future, face a better informed electorate on labor matters."

THE MARCH OF LABOR



TWO-THIRDS OF BERLIN WORKERS ARE WOMEN. THEY ARE BETTER ABLE TO WORK HARD ON THE LOW RATIONS THAN MEN.

SOME FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES SPECIFY 35 AS THE MAXIMUM HIRING AGE.

THE PER CAPITA EXPENDITURE FOR CLOTHING WAS \$65 IN THE U. S. FOR 1941. FOR 1946 IT WAS \$125.

GAPS, AS WELL AS HATS, BEAR THIS UNION LABEL. INSIST ON IT IN THE NEXT ONE YOU BUY.

THE BRIGHT PASSAGE, by Maurice Hindus. Published by Doubleday & Company, 14 W. 49th St. New York 20. Price \$3.

As a reporter and analyst of affairs and developments in other countries, Maurice Hindus has few peers. There is a quality about his writing that gets you into his theme and holds you there. Those who have read "We Shall Live Again" and "Mother Russia" know what I mean. "Humanity Uprooted" is another of his books which impressed me deeply.

I think "The Bright Passage," a fine account of the "old" and new Czechoslovakia, is the best book of this type that I have read since Louis Adamic's "My Native Land" (and I read that one twice!). I rather think that in a few months I shall read "The Bright Passage" again. Why? Because Americans particularly are inclined to misunderstand, or ignore, just what is going on in such countries as Poland, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia, and why it is that people like the Czechs refuse to join in another "cordon sanitaire" around their powerful Eastern neighbor.

Maybe WE forget that Britain and France sold them down the river to Hitler, but THEY don't! Hindus goes sufficiently into the historical background of the Czech and Slovak people to give us some understanding of the social forces at work. There is great political rivalry in this little country, but there is a remarkable unanimity about large-scale socialization, alliance for military defense with the Soviet Union. Czechoslovakia is predominantly Roman Catholic, but even the Catholics feel grateful to the Russians for the liberation of their country.

The British Labor Party has launched a mild program of socialization. The Czech socialist program is far more embracing and the present two-year plan may mean the collective ownership of a major part of basic industry. The Czechs are trying to retain the best features of both capitalism and socialism and what they are attempting is something new in economic systems.

At any rate, "The Bright Passage" is a capital book and is required reading for those who know little of the country and what it is trying to do—and most Americans, unfortunately, come under that category!

—AL SESSIONS

PRESIDENTIAL MISSION, by Upton Sinclair. Published by The Viking Press, 18 E. 48th St., New York 17. Price \$3.50.

Bernard Shaw says that when others want to know what has happened in his life he tells them to read the novels of Upton Sinclair. Certainly that is true of the now famous "Lanny Budd" series. "Presidential Mission," just out, is the eighth, and if you would like to review the major events of this war-torn old planet from 1914 to 1942 and have it all woven into fascinating story form, go get a copy of "World's End." Your appetite will be whetted and you'll go for the other seven, including Sinclair's latest which takes in the period from Vichy (Petain, Laval, et al) to 1942 when American troops invaded Africa. While these stories are related, they can be enjoyed separately. "Presidential Mission" holds up to the high standard of its predecessors and some critics think it's the best.

A lot of water has gone under the bridge since Upton Sinclair decided to do something about ending poverty in California and ran for Governor in 1934. Lies and slush funds licked him, but if you think his influence on the world was

licked you have another guess coming. Sinclair, for more than a generation, has been one of the most widely-read American authors—if not in his own country, then in others. Even in the United States, however, 1,250,000 copies of the first seven "Lanny Budd" books have been printed. Few novelists hit that figure. In addition, some 17 foreign countries have contracted to publish one or more of the series. And that is what you call circulation! It is all the more remarkable when you consider that these stories are meaty affairs, running to 600 and 700 pages of cleverly interwoven history and fiction—and not one-night popular thrillers of the Perry Mason or Hercule Poirot variety.

It pleases me vastly that Sinclair, who has been perennially snubbed by the critics as a "propagandist," has capped his long, arduous career with a literary triumph.

—AL SESSIONS

Popular Mysteries

Another pair of topnotch mysteries has hit the stands with release by Popular Library of 25c editions of best-selling stories of this type. "I'll Sing at Your Funeral," by Hugh Pentecost, is another baffling Luke Bradley tale. The other is "The Yellow Violet," considered by critics the best of the Pat Abbott mysteries. Incidentally, Popular notifies us that sales of "Duel in the Sun" are still forging ahead with printings way past the million mark.—A.E.S.

Little Luther

"Go around to the back door and scrape your shoes off before you come in," Mr. Dilworth ordered. "You know better than to come in the front door when you've been working fertilizer into the garden."

"Sorry, Pop," said Little Luther. "It was that fertilizer that reminded me of your argument about the present Congress."

"Don't be crude, Luther," his father remonstrated. "And besides, all I said was that I thought the present Congress was a wonderful thing for the country."

"And I said it stank," said Little Luther.

"Yes, I remember your vulgar retort," said Mr. Dilworth. "What of it?"

"Well, Dad, I see your point now," said the boy. "If some useful vegetables can grow out of that stuff I'm spreading into the garden, it even seems possible some good may come out of hell-bent-for-reaction guys in Washington."

"I'd hardly use that comparison," Mr. Dilworth began.

"I know you wouldn't," said Little Luther, "but I would. All we hard-working people have to do is turn it two feet under ground to plant some seeds in it, give it a good going over with a political action rake, take care of it every day, and first thing you know we'll have some honest vegetables growing where that fertilizer lies today."

"Tomorrow," said Mr. Dilworth, "you can help mother with the dusting. You get too many ideas when you're working in the garden."

Price-Cutting Furore Called 'The Baloney'

Boston, Mass.

Most of that talk you've been hearing about the Newburyport Plan and a 10 per cent cut is strictly the baloney. The Boston Better Business Bureau says so. But you can still make the dream come true.

The Better Business Bureau's report shows that the movement now "sweeping the nation" is just another device to coax the last of your hard-earned savings—if you still have any—into department store cash registers before the crash comes.

A PLAN TO UNLOAD

It all started when the Newburyport retailers decided they had far too many goods bought at high prices. Pres. Truman wasn't slipping them any news when he said prices must come down, for they knew the public just wasn't buying at sky-high costs.

So they started the Newburyport Plan. It was copied from coast to coast. But it scared a lot of other retailers, who feared that with public opinion what it was, the plan might develop into the real thing—an honest-to-goodness price drop in the cost of living.

BUSINESS BUREAU SPEAKS

Now comes the report of the Better Business Bureau—whose employees struck in Boston last year against slave wages. An in case your own community's retailers are copying the plan, you'd better read on.

Many merchants, it said, "are not doing what the public has been led to believe they are doing. Publicity . . . has created impressions that the retailers of Newburyport have reduced all prices for an indefinite period by 10 percent. This is not the case . . . All some retailers agreed to do is to reduce prices 10 percent wherever possible, for a 10-day period only."

Labor and consumers have the answer. It is in applying pressure for honest and across the board, permanent price cuts, and in refusing to buy until those price cuts are made.

YOUR JOB and the LAW

By JACK ABBOTT

The majority ruling of the NLRB, issued in the Lewis Meier Co. case, Indianapolis, Ind., made no new law but the dissent by board member Reynolds did present a novel theory.

The United Garment Workers (AFL) had a closed shop agreement of indefinite duration with the company. At a time when it was appropriate for the employees to seek an election to designate or change unions, three of them joined and campaigned for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers (CIO). The AFL union thereupon suspended these employees and requested their discharge under the closed shop agreement.

Th NLRB ordered the men reinstated with back pay, pointing out that at the time the men were fired the company knew the reason for the request.

Reynolds in his dissent said that he would have found that the AFL union was itself an employer under the Wagner Act, and that since the CIO union did not prefer charges against it he would dismiss the case without prejudice to reopening.

Reynolds explained that had the company not known the reason why the discharges were requested the employees would have stayed fired, that the employees were entitled to protection regardless of such knowledge, that a union having a closed shop contract which gave it the right to control tenure of employment assumed the status of an employer, and that when such a union improperly demanded firings it ought to be held liable for the results like any other employer.

To this argument the majority replied that it was bound by the act as written, that unions were excluded under it from the status of employers except as to their own employees (such as organizers), and that the board therefore had no power to do what Reynolds suggested.

Reynolds rejoined that in view of the emphatic rejection by my colleagues that the board should undertake to impose effective restrictions on a union's power to utilize a closed shop contract as a weapon of industrial tyranny, I find it necessary to advise those injured by such a weapon that their only redress lies in legislative action."

ACCIDENT RATE IN CALIFORNIA STILL TERRIFICALLY HIGH

(Release from State Federation of Labor)

San Francisco, Calif.

Five hundred and eighty-eight California workers died as a result of industrial accidents in 1946, as recorded by Paul Scharrenberg, Director of Industrial Relations. Vehicular accidents, largely automobile and truck, on California highways were the largest single cause of fatalities to employed workers in the state, accounting for 245, or 42 per cent of the total, industrial deaths in 1946.

Accidents involving machinery caused the death of 66 workers, and 65 fatalities resulted from falls. Electrocutions were responsible for the loss of 41 lives, and explosions for 38. Thirty-six workers died as a result of having been struck by falling objects.

LUMBER INDUSTRY BAD

The report states that, in relation to the number of employed, the extractive and construction industries were extremely costly, in terms of human lives. In the lumber industry, 48 fatalities occurred in 1946, which was equivalent to more than one death for every 500 wage earners employed. In the extraction of oil and other mineral resources, industrial fatalities number 40, or more than one life per 1000 employees. Deaths in the construction industry totaled 70. In agriculture, the number of fatalities reported was 51.

Although women constitute around 30 per cent of the labor force, they were involved in only 2 per cent of the fatal industrial accidents. Of the 588 workers who lost their lives, 13 were women and 575 men.

TOLL OF YOUNGSTERS

The return of young men to the civilian labor force following demobilization is reflected in the fact that the age group 25-34 years accounted for the largest single group of industrial fatalities. In 1946, 36 per cent of the workers involved in fatal accidents were less than 35 years of age, as contrasted with only 28 per cent in 1945.

These figures are incomplete since industrial fatalities in employments not covered by the California Workmen's Compensation Act, principally federal employees, employees of interstate railroads, longshore and harbor workers covered by federal laws, have not been included in this summary.

In the future, the Department hopes to have more comprehensive tabulations of industrial injuries and fatalities, based upon new report forms and new procedures.

Industrial accidents and fatalities

AFL Coast-to-Coast Radio Schedule

Day	Time	Network	Program
Every Thursday	9:30 P. M. E. D. T.	ABC	5-Star Variety Show from Hollywood
Daily (except Sat. & Sun.)	3:45 P. M. E. D. T.	ABC	New Radio Drama with Stars from Stage & Screen
Every Sunday	1:30 P. M. E. D. T.	Mutual	Repeat Performance of 5-Star Variety Show
Every Tuesday	8:15 P. M. E. D. T.	ABC	Talks by Outstanding Speakers
May 23	10:45 P. M. E. D. T.	NBC	Labor Speaker (To Be Announced)

NOTE! Please check radio listings in your local newspaper for time of broadcasts. All times given are Eastern Daylight Time.

NO SCHOOL TODAY!



Picketing outside their school, these East Detroit teachers affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers (AFL), went on strike for higher pay. Here they stop students, explain the situation and ask them not to cross the picket line. The strike was forced after city officials stubbornly refused to agree to union demands. (Federated Pictures)

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Office: Ninth and Monte Verde
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Here's How Landhogs
Would Benefit From
Repeal of 160-Acre
Limit on CV Water

One of the biggest lobbyists behind efforts to knock out the 160-acre limitation from Bureau of Reclamation water plans under the CVP is the Kern County Land Co. If the limitation goes, the Kern County Land Co. stands to make millions by using government water to develop new land which they can sell at high prices. Does the Kern County Land Co. need more profits? Look at these figures released by the company for its 1946 statement: Total net assets — \$12,053,515. Nearly \$2,000,000 more than last year. Net income (after taxes) for 1946 — \$6,664,597. This is OVER \$2,500,000 MORE PROFIT than in 1945. (Income tax rebate.) The company leases 17,674 acres of land on a crop share basis during 1946 and took in \$943,612 in profits as compared with \$475,859 in 1945. Kern County Land Co. is not satisfied with its 17,674 acres of farm land. IT WANTS MORE. And it wants YOU to foot the tax bill and pay for the water to irrigate that new land. That's the true story behind Congressman Elliott's attempt to knock out the 160-acre limitation. —CALIF. FARM REPORTER.

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FRUIT & PRODUCE DRIVERS,
WAREHOUSEMEN AND
EMPLOYEES UNION
Main and John Streets
Salinas, California

To all of our Members employed during the past year for the S. P. Milling Company in the Salinas, Chualar, Soledad, Gonzales and King City warehouses: A decision and award with respect to the arbitration was received on Saturday, May 17th; a ten per cent increase was granted to all of the classifications involved.

The retroactive date is November 20, 1946. There was an additional holiday awarded, this being Washington's birthday. Vacation privileges are as follows: Anyone working 1600 hours within a 12-month period shall be entitled to a vacation as provided in the 1945 agreement. The following rates of pay are in effect: Apprentice Warehouseman...\$.95 General Warehouseman...1.00 Mill Men...1.10 Pilers...1.10 Sack Sewers...1.045 Hand Pickers and Packers... .77 Fibre Board Box Makers and Packaging Machine Operators... .825

At the meeting held on Tuesday, May 13, the condition affecting the award was explained to the members involved. Your union is not going to go into a lengthy report on this award, but to state that the industry can feel well satisfied of the fine job they did in depriving their workers of receiving an adequate wage. Your union had asked for rates of pay ranging from \$.925 per hour for women to \$1.40 per hour for working foremen.

Many months went by and because this particular agreement calls for arbitration we were forced to take that gamble. The small increase was the result of your efforts; the efforts of your union; the efforts of our statisticians; and I might say that the cost in dollars and time consumed, all running into several hundreds of dollars, is a small and insignificant consideration when we take into account the thousands upon thousands of dollars that the workers in this industry will have been deprived of from the period beginning with November 20, 1946, to November 20, 1947.

A contract outlining the conditions for the period herein indicated will be immediately prepared and posted in the various warehouses coming within the jurisdiction of this union. In the meantime we ask all of our members employed in the S. P. Milling to immediately sign petitions to the S. P. Milling Company for any back pay, in the event they were employed for any period following November 20, 1946.

May we add that your union proudly states that this industry is the only one within the jurisdiction of your union which has such low rates of pay; for example, minimum rates for women under existing agreements between this union and Canneries, Frozen Food Plants, Package and Processing Plants are \$1 per hour. Minimum rates for men range from \$1.15 to \$1.625 per hour.

CANNERIES IN SALINAS AND WATSONVILLE

At meetings held during the week for employees at Frank Raiters Cannery and Watsonville Cannery, the membership approved the proposal as presented to the employers which reads as follows:

Minimum rate of pay for men, \$1.15 to \$1.50 per hour. Minimum rate of pay for women, \$1 per hour. Floor ladies, \$1.15 per hour. The 8-hour day and the 40-hour week during the non-processing season; the 8-hour day and 48-hour week during the processing season, not to exceed a total of 28 weeks in any one year. Time and one-half for all hours after 8 to 12 hours; double time for all hours in excess of 12 hours. Sunday and holidays, time and one-half for the first 8 hours; double time for all hours in excess of 8.

SPIEGEL CARLOADERS

An agreement was arrived at for all of the men employed in the warehouse and carloading established at the Spiegel food plant. The following rates are to apply as of April 28; the contract runs for one year. Base rates for men are \$1.25 per hour (this classification includes all general work including ice pullers); lift-truck operators, \$1.26 per hour; carloaders \$1.625. The 8-hour day and the 40-hour week applies; all work in excess of 8 hours per day is time and one-half for the first 4 hours, and double time thereafter. Time and one-half is also paid in excess of 40; time and one-half and double time paid on all holidays worked.

PURITAN PRESERVES
This is a new addition to our Food Processing Operations, involves a preserve operation employing approximately 15 to 20 of our members. Rates of pay range from \$1 minimum for women to \$1.50 for maintenance men. The 8-hour day and the 40-hour

Such Impertinence!

A stout woman drove up to a filling station: "I want two quarts of oil," she said. "What kind, heavy?" asked the attendant. "Say, young man, don't get fresh."

Student-veterans who intend to continue their education this summer in a different school should apply immediately for a supplemental certificate of eligibility.

The Veterans Administration Nursing Service is pioneering new concepts of nursing practices to give hospitalized veterans in the 11 VA hospitals in California, Arizona and Nevada the best possible care, VA reported today.

The changes, which are being inaugurated on a nation-wide scale, were approved by Dr. Paul R. Hawley, VA chief medical director. Four major policy changes are: 1. Creation of Professional Standard Boards to evaluate qualifications of nurses for appointment to the nursing service, as physician boards now evaluate qualifications of doctors. Several of the boards have already been formed in VA Branch 12 area, which includes the three states and Hawaii. The boards are designed to improve the quality of nurses selected for duty.

ATTENTION PRODUCE DRIVERS

The applications filed by your employer are being gathered by the Grower-Shippers and should be on their way to Sacramento when you read this column. This must be done so that you may be covered under the Unemployment Insurance and Disability Act as was discussed at our last special meeting.

We request all of our drivers employed in this industry to keep a strict lookout for anyone whom you are working with who is not a member of the union. Please report this matter to the steward on the job or telephone the union office, Salinas 4893. If in Watsonville, you may call the Watsonville office on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at noon, by telephoning Watsonville 2596. It is also important that you read your contract; pocket-size editions are available at the office of the union.

It is also important that you check seniority lists to see that your name is listed in the proper order under our present existing agreement with the Grower-Shippers and all of the Independents. You are automatically covered under the seniority provision after four months employment, dated back to the year 1945.

IN ALL AREAS

Have you called for your insurance policy? If not, please call in person or request that your policy be mailed to your home by notifying the office of the union by phone or card. This insurance certificate covers all of our members in good standing under a blanket coverage for death by natural or accidental causes of one and two thousand dollars; for loss of limb or sight from five hundred to one thousand, as well as a disability clause which is also contained in the individual certificate. When you receive your policy check the name of beneficiary and notify the office of the union immediately for correction. It is important that this be done.

It is extremely important for all our members to register for employment at your union office, and make yourself available for work; this applies to both men and women. Many jobs have been filled in the past week by this method.

In last week's column of this paper your union requested the importance of all of our members registering to vote, so that they may be eligible for voting in the coming election in November. As you well know, industry is having its stand at the plate, and are at present hitting home runs to the detriment of all labor; their aim being to wreck organized labor and by doing this will set back the standard of living and the wage pattern for organized labor, established for all workers both organized and unorganized.

You may register at the office of the union. Remember that all of the gains you have made in the past can be taken away from you by rights granted by men whose sole aim is to represent industry.

TO ALL OUR MEMBERS

We ask all our members to refrain from patronizing Jergens Products; the products of this firm are on the "We Do Not Patronize" list of all organized labor in the western part of the United States.

VETERANS NEWS

Veterans in school under the Servicemen's Readjustment Act (G. I. Bill) who plan to transfer to another out-of-state school at the end of this semester or intend to continue their education this summer in another school should call at the nearest Veterans Administration office to make several important adjustments in their records.

If a veteran moves to another section of the country his National Service Life Insurance records will be transferred to the VA branch office having jurisdiction over his new place of residence.

Before the veteran moves he should inform the present VA branch insurance office of his change of address, listing both his old and new address, policy number, service serial number, and full name.

Judge Orders Fines to Go Back to Carpenters

San Francisco, Calif. Federal Judge Michael J. Roche has ordered the return to the United Bro. of Carpenters (AFL) of \$37,000 in fines paid by it in 1941 in an anti-trust suit. The U. S. Supreme Court reversed the 1941 conviction.

Back Where He Started

Someone once asked Will Rogers how he would describe the typical successful American business man. "Those I've met," grinned Will, "were born in the country, where they worked like the dickens so they could live in the city, and when they got there, they worked like the dickens so they could live in the country."

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CARPENTER ROUNDUP

The Stolte Construction Co. has been awarded the job of erecting temporary housing for indigents at the county hospital, a \$67,000 job which will provide employment for many carpenters, reports George R. Harter, business agent for Carpenters Union 925 of Salinas.

Construction of the new Lucky Stores unit on South Main Street is underway with foundation work started.

Street work along the new development of South Main Street is progressing rapidly by the Granite Construction Co.

Temo's Magazine Says We Head For 'Hell of a Crash'

Indianapolis, Ind. "We are heading toward one hell of a crash!" warns an editorial in May issue of the Intl. Teamster, attacking Congress' disregard of mounting living costs and its assaults on organized labor.

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS
Now is the time for you to register to be eligible to vote in coming elections. Newcomers to Salinas, persons who have moved since they voted last, women who have married since they last voted—all must re-register.

You must have lived in your precinct for 40 days, in the county 90 days and in the state one year to be eligible to vote.

Veterans who left their families in Salinas and who claimed Salinas as their homes while away are qualified to vote but must re-register.

George Harter, business agent of Local 925 is a voter registrar. He can register anyone interested.

Help prevent congestion at union meetings—pay your dues at other times. The office is open from 7:15 to 5:30 daily, from 8 to 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 2 p.m. on Saturdays. Pay your dues at some time other than the meeting night.

Apprentice Training Practices of Unions May Be Under Attack

Washington, D. C. An indication that the apprentice training practices of the AFL building trades may be the next target for the Senate small business subcommittee came from Chairman Homer Capehart (R, Ind.).

Commenting publicly during the questioning of officers of the Intl. Typographical Union (AFL), Capehart said, "we are especially interested in this apprenticeship situation. It's something that ought to be looked into in many industries, including the machinists, carpenters and the building industry."

Capehart said, "maybe we could work out some educational program, or maybe there'll have to be some legislation."

BLDG. TRADES COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of Building and Construction Trades Council of Monterey County, Calif., May 15, 1947. Meeting was called to order by President Wm. J. Dickerson at 8 p.m. Roll call showed 19 delegates representing eight local unions. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

CREDENTIALS

Plumbers L.U. 62 presented credentials for Bro. Homer Stephens to replace Bro. H. Tretzel, resigned. Seated. Painters presented Brother Floyd A. Mason to replace Bro. William Grubbs. (Seated pending arrival of credentials.) All bills were ordered paid.

CORRESPONDENCE

From State B. & C. T. C. of Calif., two letters covering the activities in the California State Legislature. From Operating Engineers No. 3, a copy of the minutes covering the meeting of Building Trades representatives and the Pacific Gas & Electric Co. of their meeting May 5, 1947.

From the B. & C. T. Dept., a report on Senate Bill 866, also an analysis of Senate Bill No. 1126 covering the amendments of National Labor Relations Act.

Received a copy of an agreement between the lumber companies and Truck Drivers L.U. 287.

Received a copy of minutes from the Monterey Peninsula Central Labor Council and the B. & C. T. C. of Santa Clara County.

Two weekly news letters from the Calif. State Federation of Labor.

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT
Bro. R. S. Rial reports his findings for the past two weeks. There are 101 members of the Building Crafts working at Fort Ord. Jobs have to be checked almost daily to keep some contractors operating strictly union. A couple of non-union Electric Contractors have caused some concern.

Please demand the work card of men on the job when you arrive on job.

Bro. R. E. Estice, L.U. 272 Painters—All painters are working though work has slackened off. The Del Monte job is about completed.

REPORTS OF UNIONS

Bro. H. Foster, Sheet Metal Workers 304—Good meeting; initiated two new members; we have five men working on the Ord job.

Bro. M. Fales, Electrical Workers 1072—Good meeting; considerable discussion about the non-union electrical contractors.

Bro. Grover Bethards, Carpenters 1323—Good meeting; nothing special to report.

Bro. Joseph Real, Brick Masons No. 16—Good meeting in Salinas; initiated one new member.

Bro. Wm. Ingram, Plasterers No. 337—No meeting.

Bro. Bolin, Painters L.U. 272—Good meeting; initiated four new members.

Bro. H. Stephens, Plumbers L.U. 62—Good meeting. The secretary was instructed to request that the organizer be sent in to Monterey. Discussed the Carmel Sanitary Dis-

trict; it is claimed they do not have a competent inspector for the plumbing.

Bro. Perry Luce, L.U. 690—Good meeting; 176 present; initiated six new members.

Several minutes discussion of several jobs.

No further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
L. T. LONG, Secy.

Pay Raises Only Small Portion Of High Lumber Cost

Portland, Ore. Wage increases totalling 35c an hour since November, 1945, have increased the production cost of pine only \$5.25 per thousand board feet and fir \$4.66 per thousand, but quoted lumber price increases for the same period a amount to \$20.50 and \$27.12 per thousand for pine and fir respectively, a survey by the Lumber and Sawmill Workers (AFL) revealed here.

The study, based on a 1940 fir survey and a 1942 pine report, "indicates conclusively that to maintain industry profits equal to the 1945 level, the price of pine should have been increased only \$10.50 per thousand and Douglas fir \$9.32 per thousand," Exec. Sec. Kenneth Davis of the union's northwestern council declared.

Both Davis and council president, John M. Christenson, said actual prices in a great many cases were much higher than quoted prices. They pointed to the recent statement of Pres. Lawrence Otinger of the U. S. Plywood Corp. that "nearly one-third of all Douglas fir plywood produced in the U. S. is sold on the 'gray market' at prices ranging up to 300 percent above established levels."

Business Agent E. C. Jorgensen of Seattle Local 2519 pointed out the average price of fir in his area had jumped \$43.50 per thousand since V-J Day.

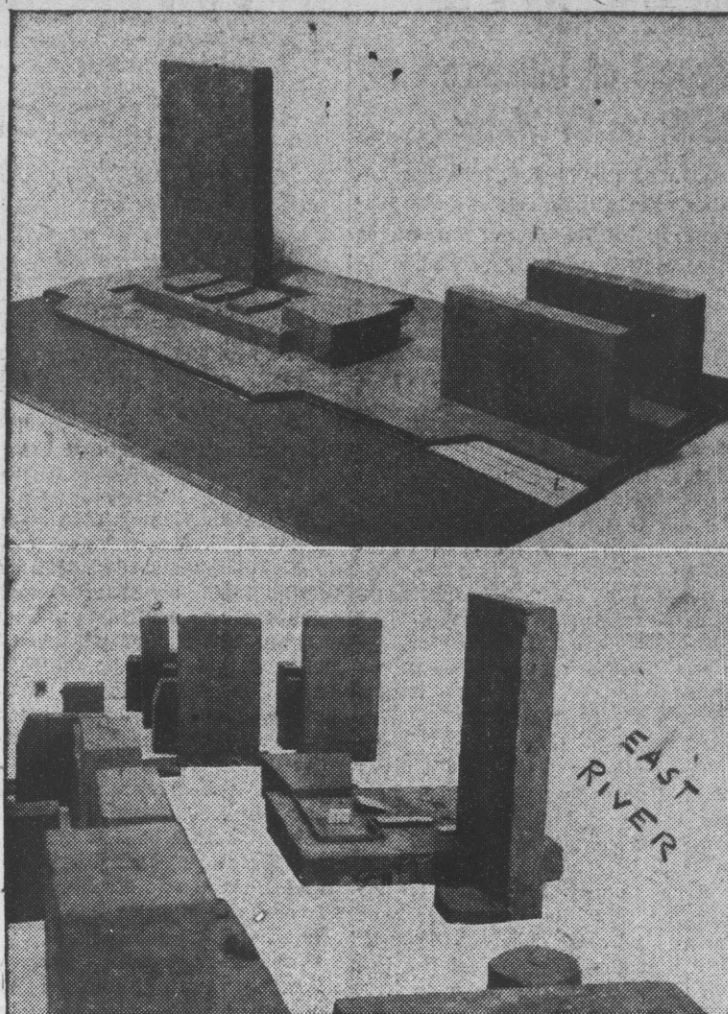
Davis declared present profits in Douglas fir of \$29.20 per thousand proved the industry could increase wages "more than what seems to be the national pattern—15c per hour—and still receive a 200 to 400 percent profit increase over November, 1941, prices.

"And there is still plenty left in that 200 to 400 percent profit increase range to take care of paid holidays, better vacations and health and welfare funds," he concluded.

Progress of Science

1930 a Blonde
1935 a Platinum Blonde
1940 an Incendiary Blonde
1945 an Atomic Blonde
1950 ? ? ? ? Blonde

World Capital Begins To Take Shape



Clay portraits of the future, these two models embody some suggestions for the layout of the future United Nations Headquarters on New York City's east side. The tall building in each model would serve as offices for U.N.'s staff while the lowest structures would contain meeting halls for U.N. meetings. Still at work on designs and the allocation of space, architects emphasize that their models serve only to illustrate possibilities. However, decisions to house the U.N. staff in a tall structure which could be completed by the end of 1948 have already been made by U.N. officials.

YOUR HEALTH

By UNION DOCTOR, M.D.

Every trade unionist and every health worker ought to read A Medical Survey of the Bituminous-Coal Industry (Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., \$1.75). This is the report of the group of Navy experts who made a thorough survey of the coal mine areas last year.

The report is presented in an interesting way, with plenty of photographs showing conditions in the mining towns. While it is, as one United Mine Workers (AFL) representative said, "a restrained document," it contains many important facts.

COMPANIES OWN HOUSES

In the areas visited by the survey teams, for example, 57 percent of the houses visited belonged to the coal companies. The surveyors found that: "The cheapest materials usually have been selected for 'camp' houses, and little thought has been given to general appearance. The result often is a group of boxlike structures, giving an impression of monotonous uniformity."

They describe the average company house as "of frame construction, about 28 feet square. This one-story dwelling contains four rooms. It has no closets and no bath. It has an asphalt composition roof and wood siding.

"The house is supported above ground on wooden posts or masonry piers and has no basement. Only occasionally has any attempt been made to insulate the house for economy of heating in winter or for coolness in summertime. The dwelling is heated by coal stove or grate.

"The simple bathtub or shower is still a rare item in the houses in coal-mining camps. Of the 1,154 miners and their families occupy company-owned houses inspected, only 121 contained bathrooms in which there were either tubs or showers or both.

"During the survey, the investigators often found houses standing crazily askew, due to rotting or settling of the wooden supporting posts. The fault most frequently observed, however, was weakened, broken, or decayed portions of porches and stoops.

"For example, in one camp there is a house whose front and side porches are separated from the dwelling proper, and anyone entering or leaving the house risks breaking an ankle or leg. The roof sags, walls are cracked, and, in short, one wonders how the building can withstand anything stronger than a mild breeze."

UNSATURATED CONDITIONS

Sanitary conditions were found by the surveyors to vary considerably, but were generally worse in company towns. Sewage disposal facilities were inadequate for 45 percent of company-owned houses as compared with only 30 percent of houses privately owned.

As the surveyors state, "In Coalville, U. S. A., many of the sore spots, the decrepit houses, and the disease-breeding privies that were the despair of earnest reformers earlier in the present century have persistently survived. That they exist in shocking contrast to modern, sanitary, well-maintained communities stigmatizes not only the backward coal mine operators but the whole industry."

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